

29 (Amended). The method of claim 36 wherein said heteroatomic backbone modification is a methylene(methylimino) modification.

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35 (New). A method of modulating expression of a target nucleic acid comprising administering into the alimentary canal an effective amount of an oligonucleotide comprising a 2'-O-(2-methoxyethyl) modification, and wherein said oligonucleotide hybridizes to said target nucleic acid, and modulates the expression thereof.

36 (New). A method of modulating expression of a target nucleic acid comprising administering into the alimentary canal an effective amount of an oligonucleotide comprising a 2'-O-(2-methoxyethyl) modification, and a heteroatomic backbone modification, wherein said oligonucleotide hybridizes to said target nucleic acid, and modulates the expression thereof.

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### REMARKS

#### **Status of the Claims**

With this amendment, claims 27-29 and 34 are pending. Support for the amendment can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, for example, on page 11, lines 4-7. No new matter has been added. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the present amendment. The attached page (Appendix A) is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made." Appendix B shows all claims currently under examination (prior to entry of the above amendment).